

Dr. Cornelius Bessler - Dalli Werke Stolberg GmbH & Co.KG.

We were very interested in people who can tell us more about the washing industry, the usage of boric acid and other very important aspects related to our project. For that purpose, our team organized an interview with Dr. Bessler from Dalli group. The Dalli group is one of the most famous companies in the personal care and home care segment. Today they are Europe's second biggest consumer goods manufacturer in that same segment. As one of their factories is located in Stolberg, we were very thankful to be able to get in contact with them and even be invited to visit the factory.

- **WHICH INFLUENCE HAS BORIC ACID FOR YOUR COMPANY AND YOUR PRODUCTS?**

Dr. Bessler: Boric acid is used as a stabilizer for proteases in liquid laundry and home care formulas.

- **WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE DANGER OF BORIC ACID?**

Dr. Bessler: The classification of boric acid as CMR cat 2 leads to the rethinking of its usability and to increased safety measures for the production. A non-boron alternative is highly desired.

- **HOW COULD THE IGEN TEAM AACHEN AND THEIR WORK INFLUENCE THE USE OF BORIC ACID/ THE DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVES TO BORIC ACID?**

Dr. Bessler: It would be one interesting option to eliminate boric acid.

- **HOW DO YOU PROTECT YOUR WORKERS FROM THE INFLUENCE OF BORIC ACID?**

Dr. Bessler: Protection is happening on all levels. Boric acid is avoided where feasible, contained where necessary. In addition, the workers are using personal protective equipment.

- **WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN FUTURE WITH BORIC ACID (ALSO IN RELATION TO THE LEGAL PERSPECTIVE)?**

Dr. Bessler: Boric acids shall disappear from the radar of consumer products.

- **ARE THERE ALREADY ALTERNATIVES FOR BORIC ACID IN LIQUID WASHING DETERGENTS?**

Dr. Bessler: Suppliers are offering non-boric solutions but a one size fits all boron free solution is not commercially available.

- **HOW IMPORTANT ARE ENZYMES (PRODUCED BY BIOTECHNOLOGICAL PROCESSES) FOR THE WASHING DETERGENTS/INDUSTRY? HOW BIG IS THE PERCENTAGE OF ENZYMES IN LIQUID WASHING DETERGENTS?**

Dr. Bessler: Enzymes are one key component for delivering a good cleaning result to the consumer. Overall enzymes are contained between 0,1% and 2% in liquid detergents. Protease represent the majority of the enzymes.